



Nanny Status Handout



Please note that this Information Paper only provides basic information and is not intended to serve as a substitute for personal consultations with a Legal Assistance Attorney.

Childcare is a top priority for service members stationed abroad with their families. For a variety of reasons, bringing a nanny from the U.S. to live with you presents legal and logistical hurdles. This handout discusses the most common nanny issues you will confront: dependency status, post access, individual logistic support, driver's licenses, visas, and resident permits.

Dependency Status

A nanny from the U.S. you bring to live with you does not qualify as your dependent. Dependents are your family members, including spouses, unmarried children, parents, and individuals for whom you are a legal guardian.

The NATO Status of Forces Agreement affords certain privileges to members of the military and their dependents. One of these privileges is the ability to enter and exit Germany without restriction.

A nanny is not your dependent and will not have the ability to stay in Germany indefinitely. U.S. citizens holding a valid U.S. passport may stay in Germany up to 90 days without obtaining a visa. Those wishing to stay longer than 90 days must obtain a visa granting a residence permit. This means your nanny would either have to leave Germany within 90 days after arriving, or obtain a residence permit.

Post Access

Access to U.S. installations is closely monitored, and usually limited to DOD ID-card holders and certain other individuals. As a non-dependent, a nanny will not be issued a DOD ID card.

An installation pass may be issued to friends or family members visiting Germany. Temporary passes expire at the end of the visitor's stay, not to exceed 90 days. Installation passes valid for more than 90 days require proof of a residence permit.

Individual Logistic Support

U.S. Forces provide individual logistic support (ILS) to service members and their families. ILS includes services and benefits such as the PX, commissary, ration card, post office, vehicle registration, VAT, and customs exemptions. Without dependency status, a nanny will not receive ILS.

Dependency status also dictates the sale of tax- and duty-free gas. Only dependents of military personnel assigned to Germany are entitled to purchase tax- and duty-free gas.

Driver's Licenses

Military personnel and their family members must obtain a USAREUR driver's license to operate a vehicle in Germany. A USAREUR driver's license authorizes operation of USAREUR-plated vehicles and German registered vehicles. Service members and dependents are entitled to register their personally-owned vehicles with the military, and avoid paying German taxes or vehicle registration.

Visitors to Germany without a USAREUR driver's license are not authorized to drive vehicles with USAREUR plates.

U.S. citizens wishing to drive in Germany must obtain a German driver's license within six months after entering the country. Those staying in Germany for less than a year, but longer than six months, may apply for an extension to use their U.S. license for the entire stay.

A nanny living with you will not be eligible to obtain a USAREUR driver's license. The individual would be required to secure a German driver's license, if staying in Germany for longer than six months. Several states have reciprocal agreements with Germany granting exemptions from the written and road tests for licensed citizens from those states.

For more information on obtaining a German driver's license, visit the State Department website:

http://germany.usembassy.gov/germany/services/drivers_license.html

Visas and Resident Permits

U.S. citizens needing a visa or resident permit for an extended stay in Germany may contact German consular services at its embassy in Washington, or at consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York and San Francisco.

For the visa application and information on where to submit it, visit the German Consulate website:

http://www.germany.info/relaunch/info/consular_services/visa.html

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References:

AE Regulation 190-1, Driver and Vehicle Requirements and the Installation Traffic Code for the U.S. Forces in Germany

AE Regulation 190-16, Installation-Access Control

AE Regulation 600-17, Retail Sales of Motor Fuel to Individuals in Germany

AE Regulation 600-77, Status of Forces Agreement Identification

AE Regulation 600-700, Identification Cards and Individual Logistic Support

AR 600-8-14, Identification Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, Their Eligible Family Members, and Other Eligible Personnel

NATO Status of Forces Agreement and Supplementary Agreement